



Mount Mary offers an outstanding undergraduate program to prepare students for successful and fulfilling careers in social work and other helping professions.

Social workers assist people by helping them cope with issues in their everyday lives, deal with their relationships and solve personal and family problems. Some social workers help clients who face a disability or a life-threatening disease, or a social problem, such as inadequate housing, unemployment or substance abuse.

People in this profession also assist families that have serious domestic conflicts, sometimes involving child or partner abuse. Some social workers conduct research, advocate for improved services, engage in systems design or are involved in planning or policy development. Many social workers specialize in serving a particular population or working in a specific setting.

Fieldwork

Students complete 450 hours of fieldwork before graduation. Students complete three semesters of field placement within two different agencies. These placements provide students with a greater understanding of social work as a profession and give them opportunities to achieve professional practice and competence, and to develop rich professional networks.

Accreditation

Holding a long tradition of excellence, Mount Mary was the first private University in Wisconsin to have a social work baccalaureate program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Mount Mary's program has been accredited since 1974.

Students who wish to take the licensure or certification exams in Wisconsin must graduate from an accredited program. In addition, some employers may be required to hire graduates from accredited colleges and universities. Because Mount Mary's program is accredited, graduates are immediately eligible to take licensure/certification exams necessary for employment in the field.

Certification/Licensure

Social workers may be certified or licensed. Students who graduate with a social work degree from Mount Mary are eligible to take the State of Wisconsin BSW level certification exam for entry-level professional practice. In order for one to use the title "social worker," he or she must be licensed or certified by the Wisconsin Department of Professional Services.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The demand for social workers has never been greater and is still growing. In fact, some social service agencies are finding it necessary to recruit social workers from outside the area because they cannot meet their social work staffing needs. Social workers work in mental health clinics, schools, hospitals and private practices. Examples of employment opportunities for social workers include:

- American Red Cross
- Child protective services
- Community services for older adults
- Justice system
- Family and children's services
- Health care programs
- Homeless and domestic violence centers
- Hospice programs
- Mental health and community support programs
- Substance abuse programs
- Schools

SOCIAL WORK CLUB

The Social Work Club is an active student organization on campus. The club regularly holds food drives, clothing drives, bake sales and community service events to benefit community organizations.

PHI ALPHA HONOR SOCIETY

Eligibility for initiation includes a minimum of junior status, a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and major GPA of 3.25 or higher, completion of at least nine credits in required social work courses, demonstration of leadership ability and dedication to social work practice.

EXAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

SOCIAL WORK | 120 CREDITS

MAJOR

CORE

ELECTIVES

FRESHMAN YEAR

FALL Courses		SPRING Courses	
BIO 105 Current Concepts in Biology	3	PSY 103 Intro Psychology	4
SOC 101 Intro Sociology	3	ENG 120 College Research Writing (if needed)	3
History	3	World Language	3
SYM 110 Leadership for Social Justice	3	Core Elective	2
ENG 110 or 120 (depending on placement)	3	Oral Communications (First Year - Fall or Spring)	2
TOTAL	15 credits	TOTAL	14 credits

SOPHOMORE YEAR

FALL Courses		SPRING Courses	
SWK 231 Intro to Social Work	3	SWK 232 Social Welfare Policies & Services	3
PSY 214 Developmental Psychology	4	SWK 210 Race, Gender and Class	3
SEA 101 Search for Meaning	4	PSY 310 Behavioral Science Statistics	4
College Level Math	3	Theology	3
POS 213 American Government: Federal	3	Core Elective	3
TOTAL	17 credits	TOTAL	16 credits

JUNIOR YEAR

FALL Courses		SPRING Courses	
SWK 340 Generalist Practice I	3	SWK 342 Field Education I	5
SWK 362 Research for Social Work	3	SWK 343 Generalist Practice II	3
SWK 330 Human Behavior & Social Environment	3	PSY 325 Psychopathology	4
Philosophy	3		
Fine Arts	3		
Core Elective	3		
TOTAL	18 credits	TOTAL	12 credits

SENIOR YEAR

FALL Courses		SPRING Courses	
SWK 453 Field Education II	5	SWK 492 Field Education III	5
SWK 455 Social Policy & Generalist Practice	3	SWK 494 Senior Social Work Seminar	2
Literature or Fine Arts	3	Literature	3
PSY 325 Psychopathology	4	Elective	3
TOTAL	16 credits	TOTAL	13 credits

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2024

This example four-year plan is intended to outline the number and types of courses a student might take in order to fulfill the degree, major, core and elective requirements to graduate. Students meet with their academic advisor each semester to review progress toward fulfilling their degree requirements.



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